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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/051,019	01/22/2002	Munemitsu Ikegami	217487US2	7641

22850 7590 07/11/2006

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

POON, KING Y

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

DATE MAILED: 07/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's election with traverse of the restriction requirement mailed on 3/23/2006 in the reply filed on 4/21/2006 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a serious burden on the examiner. This is not found persuasive because 1) the search for species 1 requires search queries of a header includes user ID, a printer ID, a printing condition specifying printing functions of the one of plurality printers used for printing the printing data with the printer; registering, for the user ID, print restriction information including a printer ID of each printer usable by the user of the user ID, and printing functions of the printer, usable by the user, at a print restriction server; issuing, by the print restriction server, in response to the header information received from each client device a ticket allowing use of the printer of the printer ID included in the header information, and transmitting the ticket to the issuing client device when each of the printing functions specified by the printing condition in the header information is included in the print restriction information registered for the user ID included in the header information; generating by the issuing client device, after receiving the ticket from the print restriction server, a printing request including the printing data, the header information, and the received ticket, and transmitting the printing request to the printer of the printer ID included in the header information; such queries is not required for species II; 2) the search for species II requires search queries of printing print data in response to the acknowledgement without sending the printing data to the printer control device; such queries is not required for species I. Therefore, the search for the

two species requires a different field of search by employing different search queries and it is necessary to search for one of the species/invention in a manner that is not likely to result in finding art pertinent to the other species/invention.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Accordingly, claims 12-17 has been withdrawn from considerations.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 6 is objected to because of the following informalities: It appears the comma follows "usable by the user" of line 13 should be a semicolon, and "means for issuing and transmitting" of line 14 should be "a print restriction server". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted steps are: how the ticket that is issued and transmitted by the means for issuing and transmitting ended up in the print restriction server.

5. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

It is unclear whether "the print restriction serve" of line 20 is the "means for issuing and transmitting" of line 14.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 1-5, 7-11 are allowed.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to King Y. Poon whose telephone number is 571-272-7440. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2625

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July 6, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Y. Poon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**KING Y. POON
PRIMARY EXAMINER**